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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Intergovernmental Group on the
Least Developed Countries
Seventh Session
(Preparatory Committee for the Second
United Nations Conference on the
Least Developed Countries) */
Geneva, 26 March 1990
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

I. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of officers

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

3. Substantive preparation for the Conference

4. Provisional agenda for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

5. Provisional rules of procedures for the Conference

6. Organization of work of the Conference

7. Other business

8. Adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Group.

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*/ General Assembly resolution 42/177, paragraph 1, designated the Intergovernmental Group to act as the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries.

II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Introduction

1. The seventh session of the Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries will be convened from 26 March-6 April 1990 pursuant to paragraph 1 (d) of General Assembly resolution 42/177. The Intergovernmental Group will serve as the Preparatory Committee for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries to be held in Paris in September 1990. The terms of reference of the Intergovernmental Group as set out in General Assembly resolution 42/177 is as follows:

(a) Substantive preparation for the Conference on the basis of the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries, and of all other relevant inputs;

(b) Provisional agenda for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries;

(c) Provisional rules of procedure for the Conference;

(d) Organization of work of the Conference.

Item 1: Election of officers

At its first session, in July 1975, the Intergovernmental Group agreed to follow, as appropriate, the rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board. 1/ Under rule 64, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure, each subsidiary organ shall elect its own officers. In accordance with past practice, the Intergovernmental Group may wish to elect a Chairman, five Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur, taking into account the need to ensure an equitable geographical distribution.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda has been drawn up on the basis of the terms of reference given to the Intergovernmental Group by General Assembly resolution 42/177.

The secretariat will make suggestions for the organization of work and a tentative timetable of meetings at the beginning of the session.

Item 3: Substantive preparation for the Conference

The Intergovernmental Group on the Least Developed Countries is expected to consider the substantive preparation of the Conference on the basis of the report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries, and of all other relevant inputs.

For the consideration of this item the Intergovernmental Group will have before it the following documentation:

READEX

(a) Report of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries, held from 22 to 31 May 1989 (A/CONF.147/DR/6-A/CONF.147/PC/2-TD/B/AC.17/30)

The purpose of the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries was to provide substantive inputs to the Conference. General Assembly resolution 42/177 specified that the results of the deliberations of the meeting would be reported to the Conference through the Intergovernmental Group.

(b) Elements for a Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the 1990s: Note prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat (A/CONF.147/PC/5-TD/B/AC.17/33)

After presenting a brief assessment of the record of the 1980s and drawing lessons therefrom, the Note puts forward suggestions for future action by both the LDCs themselves and the international community. The following issues are covered in the Note: basic principles that should guide a programme of action for the 1990s, the global framework (macro-economic policies and international support measures), mobilizing human capacities in LDCs, modernization and integration of the productive base, and arrangements for follow-up, monitoring and review.

(c) Contributions from United Nations organizations and other competent international and regional organizations (A/CONF.147/AC.3-TD/B/AC.17/31 and addenda)

Contributions from United Nations organizations and other competent international and regional organizations will be available to the Intergovernmental Group in accordance with paragraph 4 of General Assembly resolution 42/177. Contributions from these organizations contain a review, within their fields of competence, of the implementation of the Substantial New Programme of Action for the 1980s for the Least Developed Countries and make proposals for future action as an input to the preparations for the Conference.

(d) Country presentations by Governments of least developed countries

Contributions by Governments of the least developed countries have been made pursuant to paragraph 3 of General Assembly resolution 42/177.

(e) Background documents:

(i) Reports of sectoral meetings:

- Report of the Meeting of Eminent Persons on the Least Developed Countries held at the Hague, 15-16 September 1988 (UNCLDC II/1)

- Report of the High-level Experts' Meeting on the Role of the Enterprise Sector in the Development of the Least Developed Countries, held at Helsinki, 4-6 April 1989 (UNCLDC II/2);

- Report of the Meeting on the Role of Non-Governmental Organizations in the Development of the Least Developed Countries, held at Kathmandu, 8-10 November 1989 (UNCLDC II/3);

(ii) The Least Developed Countries 1989 Report;

(iii) Trade and Development Report, 1989 (UNCTAD/TDR/9), part two.

(iv) Contributions from United Nations organizations and other competent international and regional organizations which were submitted to the Meeting of Governmental Experts of Donor Countries and Multilateral and Bilateral Financial and Technical Assistance Institutions with Representatives of the Least Developed Countries held in May 1989 (A/CONF.147/DR/3/Add.1-18);

(v) Aid co-ordination and effectiveness: least developed countries 1981-1989, study by UNCTAD consultants D.R. Panday and M. Williams (A/CONF.147/PC/6-TD/B/AC.17/34).

Item 4: Provisional agenda for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The provisional agenda for the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries contained in A/CONF.147/PC/L.1-TD/B/AC.17/L.28 was prepared by the UNCTAD secretariat on the basis of the mandate given in paragraph 1 of General Assembly resolution 42/177.

Item 5: Provisional rules of procedure for the Conference

The provisional rules of procedure for the Conference are contained in A/CONF.147/PC/4-TD/B/AC.17/32. The text contains standard rules applicable to all Conferences which are held under the auspices of the United Nations.

Item 6: Organization of work of the Conference

The Intergovernmental Group may wish to prepare an organization of work and tentative timetable for the Conference.

Item 8: Adoption of the report of the Intergovernmental Group

The report of the Intergovernmental Group will be submitted to the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries which will be held in Paris, from 3-14 September 1990.

Notes

1/ The rules of procedure of the Trade and Development Board are contained in TD/B/16/Rev.4.

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II. ANNOTATIONS TO THE PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Corrigendum

Item 3: Substantive preparation for the Conference

(e) Background documents:

(v) Aid co-ordination and effectiveness: Least developed countries 1981 - 1989 - Study by UNCTAD consultants D.R. Panday and M. Williams

For (A/CONF.147/PC/6-TD/B/AC.17/34) read UNCLDC II/4

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